



November 19th 2015 Meeting Program
“The Archaeological Ghosts of Gothic Famagusta”
Dr. Charles Anthony Stewart

Please join the Houston Archeological Society for a presentation on "The Archaeological Ghosts of Gothic Famagusta." The program, which is free of charge and open to the public, will be presented by Dr. Charles Anthony Stewart on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall, University of St. Thomas.

In this presentation, Dr. Charles Stewart will describe the growth of Famagusta, a city on the east coast of Cyprus, which remains one of the best preserved “Gothic cities” in the world. He will specifically share his archaeological investigations of the cathedral called “Saint-George of the Greeks” and how it was transformed from a humble Byzantine church to a grand French-style Gothic Cathedral.

In 1099 the Crusaders established Latin States along the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea. Contrary to popular opinion, the Crusades brought new trade, settlements, stability, and population growth to the region. The island of Cyprus, which was ruled under the Greek-speaking Byzantine Empire, would both support and benefit from the prosperity of the Latin States. Their city, called Famagusta, facing Jerusalem, would become one of the largest medieval harbors, serving as a nexus for travelers, pilgrims, and traders. Eventually Cyprus itself would come under the domain of the Latin rulers in 1192; and it would be the last Crusader kingdom, lasting until the year 1473.

Charles Anthony Stewart, Professor of Art History at the University of St. Thomas, specializes in the art and archaeology of Late Antiquity and the Byzantine Empire. He received a degree in Classical Archaeology from the University of Missouri, a Master’s degree in Medieval Archaeology from the University of York in England, and a Ph.D. in Art History from Indiana University. He has conducted a wide range of archaeological field work, from castles in Wales to cathedrals in France. Within the past five years he has completed a survey of Late Antique architecture on the island of Cyprus in the Eastern Mediterranean. He recently published a book called *Cyprus and the Balance of Empires: Art and Archaeology from Justinian I to the Cœur de Lion* (Boston: ASOR, 2014).

For a campus map of St. Thomas University, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking (\$5) in Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program or about the HAS, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.





President's Message

BRAVO! HAS Members and Friends –

The 86th Annual Texas Archeological Society meeting held October 23 -25 here in Houston was an enormous success thanks to YOU! If you haven't already seen some of the statistics, here they are:

398 Registrants (a new record)

106 Academic papers, presentations and posters (another record)

\$6,351 raised in the silent auction, raffle and book room (almost double last year's total)

And a whole lot of very satisfied meeting attendees.

The volunteers from HAS knocked themselves out to make this meeting such a huge success for avocational and professional archeologists from across the State of Texas. So many of you turned up on Thursday afternoon to stuff registration bags that the task was accomplished in record time.

Bob Sewell, Sharon Menegaz and the rest of the team at the registration desk received enormous kudos for opening registration early (on Thursday afternoon), keeping it open until late Saturday and welcoming everyone to Houston with a big smile! I even saw Tom Nuckols smile a time or two ☺, and his Texas Beer Art table centerpieces were snapped up after the banquet as were the items he placed in the silent auction!

Tom Williams' posters and signs were incredibly professionally done and a couple of the meeting attendees grabbed them to take home as souvenirs. Louis Aulbach published hands-down the very best meeting booklet ever. Dr. Jason Barrett and Dr. Gus Costa put the slate of programs together and were on hand all weekend to make sure everyone's presentation worked. The poster session was enormously successful but would never have happened if Larry Golden had not wrangled the huge poster boards from Rice University (thanks Dr. Gus) to the Omni hotel in his truck.

The team from FBAS (Jay Roussel, Bob Crosser and Bruce Grethen) did the time keeping and even though we had back to back programs all afternoon Friday and all day Saturday, not once did they let a presentation run over the allotted 20 minutes. Bob Crosser, in one of the braver moments of his life, even hooked Beth Aucoin and yours truly off the stage ☺

Dub Crook not only stuffed registration bags, he also worked the registration desk, manned the author table for his new book, gave a presentation and then acted as room monitor for the rest of the presentations in his segment. That is true dedication! Steve Davis put on an amazing Trans Rio Bravo/Rio Grande International Research Collaboration Symposium and Panel Discussion that people are still talking about!

Sue Gross and her team from BAS ran the hugely successful silent auction and raffle with help from several HAS members including Catherine Jalbert and Dr. Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen and Sandy Rogers kept the exhibitors running smoothly. Louis Aulbach ran the Book Festival and all eleven renowned authors expressed their delight at being invited to attend the event and sell and sign books.

I was absolutely amazed at the number of HAS volunteers who came out to the hotel and just plugged whatever hole they could find including John Lumb who ran the used book sale most of the weekend and Diane Baird, Tula Laras and Carol Roberts who took over running the TAS Merchandise table from Kathleen Hughes so she could be free to monitor the event as co-chair.

Our very own professional photographer Tracy Connell took loads of photos of the event which we will post in next month's newsletter and on our website. We've included just a few in this newsletter to highlight our team in action!

Once again, I am so proud to be a member of the Houston Archeological Society and to work with such a great group of folks. Hope to see you all at our next meeting on Thursday, November 19th so I can thank you in person.

Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society

Minutes

Houston Archeological Society Membership Meeting

October 15th, 2015

Welcome everyone - Linda Gorski

Linda welcomed new members and guests. A total of 60 members and guests were signed in.

Treasurer's Report - Tom Nuckols

Checking Account - \$7953.71

Savings Account – \$11938.16

Membership - Bob Sewell

We have 191 members. Membership forms at back. All new and renewing members get a bumper sticker and a copy of the newest HAS Report and Journal.

New Business

HAS Board – Linda Gorski introduced the new HAS Board. They are Linda Gorski (President), Louis Aulbach (Vice President), Bob Sewell (Secretary), Tom Nuckols (Treasurer), Kathleen Hughes (Director), Mike Woods (Director) and Larry Golden (Director).

86th Annual TAS Meeting – Linda Gorski – Most important archeological meeting in Texas of the year. Need volunteers. This meeting is already looking like setting a record for registrations.

Lab Report – There will be no labs in October due to the many Texas Archeology Month activities.

International Archeology Day – HAS will be exhibiting at the Houston Museum of Natural Science on Saturday October 17th, 2015. Artifacts from the San Jacinto Town Site (aka Larry Golden Exhibit) will be on display.

Projects

Cotton Field Site – Saturday and Sunday, November 14 and 15 – Tait Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas. Dr. Barrett reported on the intended activities for the next site visit.

Paleo Dig

Suspended until after hunting season. The mammoth tusk has been stabilized and will be sent to the HMNS.

Program for October - Dr. Jon Lohse presented a program on his recent studies into the presence of bison in parts of Texas during prehistoric times

Program for November - Dr. Charles Stewart will describe the growth of Famagusta, a city on the east coast of Cyprus, which remains one of the best preserved “Gothic cities” in the world. He will specifically share his archaeological investigations of the cathedral called “Saint-George of the Greeks” and how it was transformed from a humble Byzantine church to a grand French-style Gothic Cathedral.

After the meeting members and guests gathered for a social with refreshments brought by many of our members.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19th, 2015.

Bob Sewell, Secretary Houston Archeological Society

Texas Archeological Society 86th Annual Meeting, Houston – 23-25 October, 2015

The 86th Annual Texas Archeological Society Meeting was a huge success as highlighted in this month's President's Message (see Page 2 of this newsletter). Here are a few photos of our HAS folks in action!



Carol Garner, a visitor from New York City, helped stuff the colorful registration bags that were donated by Trader Joe's.



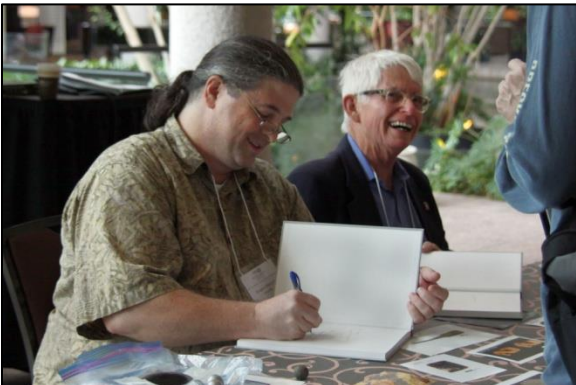
The Silent Auction, Raffle and Book Sale were wildly successful, netting \$6,351!



Sharon Menegaz, Bob Sewell and Beth Kennedy welcome Jim Sigmund, one of the record 398 folks who registered for the meeting!



The Poster Sessions were especially popular this Year, thanks to the prime location in the lobby chosen by Drs. Jason Barrett and Gus Costa.

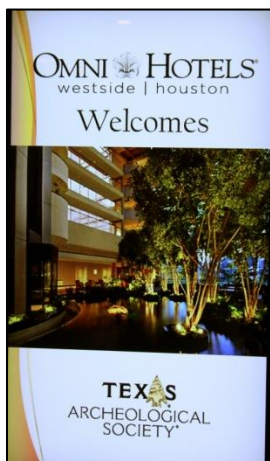


Members Douglas Mangum and Dr. Roger Moore sign their book entitled *The Archaeology of Engagement: Conflict and Revolution in the United States*.



Our very own Dick Gregg received a prestigious award from TAS president Mary Jo Galindo for his many years of service to the TAS. Dick will be leaving Texas soon to live in Ohio near his family. We shall miss him!

Texas Archeological Society 86th Annual Meeting, Houston – 23-25 October, 2015



The Omni Hotel on Houston's west side turned out to be the perfect venue for the 86th Annual TAS meeting.



Dub Crook signs books for Mike Lemen and Missy Green



Marilyn Johnson, author of Lives In Ruins: Archaeologists and the Seductive Lure of Human Rubble, was the Public Forum speaker and one of the authors signing books at the Book Festival.



Louis Aulbach and John Rich enjoying a delicious dinner at the Saturday night banquet.



Dr. Jean Clottes, world renowned rock art expert, discussed Rock Art and Tribal Art in India at the Saturday night banquet.



Bob Sewell and Linda Gorski counting up some of the takings from the very successful 86th Annual TAS meeting.

Research could help scientists rethink origins of modern Eurasians

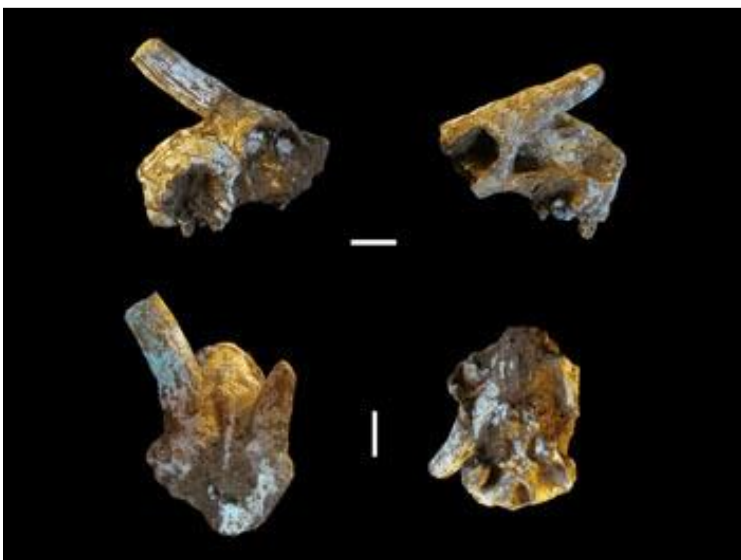
Dr. Gus Costa, HAS Lab Director was recently recognized in an article in the 'Rice University News and Media' announcing a new species of extinct antelope. Dr. Costa was the principal investigator for the study that has discovered the new species that used to roam in what is now present-day India. The article is reproduced here with the kind permission of the author, Arie Passwaters of the Rice University's Office of Public Affairs, and can also be found at <http://news.rice.edu/2015/10/29/rice-anthropologist-identifies-extinct-antelope-species-in-india>

A Rice anthropologist has identified a new species of extinct antelope that once roamed what is present-day India during the late ice age 10,000 and 100,000 years ago.

August Costa, adjunct lecturer in anthropology, has discovered *Sivacobus sankaliai*, a member of an extinct family of Asian antelopes related to modern waterbucks.

August Costa, adjunct lecturer in anthropology and principal investigator of the study, and his colleagues at Yale University and the American Museum of Natural History discovered *Sivacobus sankaliai*, a member of an extinct family of Asian antelopes related to modern waterbucks. The finding was published in the June issue of the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*.

The researchers found that antelope — whose fossils have never been unearthed in the area before — persisted for more than a million years than previously thought and were of an Asiatic variety, unlike waterbucks, which today are found only in Africa.



“The fossil postdates the last known waterbuck-like antelope in Asia by nearly a million years and demonstrates how little is known of late ice-age animal community in southern Asia,” Costa said.

The antelope fossil was discovered by Costa's team after a large piece of boulder broke free from a cliff above Gopnath Beach and fell to the beach. A horn was protruding from the cement-like sediment, and Costa was struck by the uniqueness of such a find. This was unlike anything they had come across in the area.

Scientists uncovered fossils of the *Sivacobus sankaliai*, a member of an extinct family of Asian antelopes related to modern waterbucks.

“New species are often identified when various characteristics observed in a specimen are judged as unique,” Costa said. “In this case, the anatomy of the skull we found was different from what had been found in much older fossils in northern India.”

Time and space also play an inherent role in many species determinations within the field of paleontology, Costa said. “In this case, the skull was similar enough to be grouped within the known Indian genus *Sivacobus*, but different enough to designate a new species,” he said.

While the discovery of a new species is exciting in its own right, the new fossils recovered at the seaside Gopnath site could also help reshape scientists’ understanding on how humans first colonized South Asia.



“For a very long time, researchers have had one idea of how early modern humans dispersed, and this challenges that,” Costa said. “This helps support the theory that ancient peoples used the coastline as a highway to move rapidly across southern Asia.”

Artifacts found at the site, including various animal bones, fossils and stone tools, help paint a very different picture of what the environment looked like thousands of years ago.

Artifacts found at the site, including various animal bones, fossils and stone tools, help paint a very different picture of what the environment looked like thousands of years ago. Land that ancient people and animals would have traversed is now underwater, and the excavation area is now a desert region bordering the Gulf of Khambhat.

“The fossil comes from a unique site setting representing a lost world, now a mostly submerged landscape,” Costa said. “It is correlated with stone artifacts, indicating human presence nearby.”

Costa said this is significant because the fossil site has a high potential to yield early human remains, which would put him one step closer to his ultimate goal.

“This work will hopefully illuminate the origins of modern people in a nation, which constitutes a geographical missing link to the story of human evolution,” he said. “If confirmed, this research would show that early humans settled India tens of thousands of years before their arrival in Europe and help support an emerging picture of the earliest settlement of Eurasia.”

The research was supported by a Fulbright Scholar Program, the National Science Foundation and the Leakey Foundation.

Cotton Field Site Work Continues November 14 and 15

As most of you know, we are continuing archeological excavations at the Cotton Field site at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas, that we began during TAS Field School in 2014 and continued in 2015. Our next work weekend at Cotton Field is Saturday and Sunday, November 14 and 15 and we hope you can join us.

The Cotton Field site, located in Colorado County, offers ideal conditions for studying the Late Prehistoric period, spanning both the Austin phase (ca. 700AD - 1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150AD -1500AD) in Texas. Thanks to our landowners, Rita Tait Jackson and Ed Jackson, we are continuing our excavations under the direction of HAS member and Field School PI, Dr. Jason W. Barrett.

If you plan to join us on Saturday or Sunday or both days, please email me back at lindagorski@cs.com so I can add you to our Cotton Field contact list and send you directions to the site as well as other important information including cancellation notices in case of severe weather. You must be a member of the Houston Archeological Society or one of the other regional archeological societies or the Texas Archeological Society to participate. If you are not yet a member of the Houston Archeological Society, please see our website at www.txhas.org and click on "Membership".



Please email me back if you have any questions at lindagorski@cs.com. Special thanks to Chris Barry, a professional archeologist from the Dallas Fort Worth area, for these terrific photos taken during our fieldwork weekend at Cotton Field in October.

- Linda Gorski

HAS Laboratory 30th November 2015

Mini-workshop on Plant Microfossils in Archaeological Context

Presented by Dr. Andrew Laurence, Forensic Palynologist Department of Homeland Security

Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University, November 30th, 2015, 7-9pm

Dr. Laurence will present a short program on the uses of plant microfossils in archaeological research. Attendees will learn about field collection protocols and laboratory analyses of plant microfossils.

Dr. Laurence trained with Vaughn Bryant at Texas A&M University. His graduate research focused on paleoethnobotany with a specialty in microfossil analysis.

Dr. Laurence focused his graduate research on airborne starch contamination and its impact on the archaeological record, particularly amongst fire-cracked-rock (FCR) features in Central Texas. His research aimed to obtain direct evidence of the starch-rich plants cooked in earth ovens by analyzing residue adhering to the FCR.

Apart from starch granule analysis, Dr. Laurence has a strong background in palynology. While working on his dissertation, Dr. Laurence was recruited by the Department of Homeland Security in 2012 to work for them as a forensic palynologist, thus becoming the first professional forensic palynologist in the United States. Since then he has analyzed samples from all over the world and developed new methods for obtaining pollen grains from a wide variety of sample types. Although most of his casework is sensitive in nature and cannot be released to the public, he analyzed pollen from several high profile cases, including the Bella Bond (a.k.a. Baby Doe) case from Boston. His forensic work has been showcased in the media by publications such as the Boston Globe and The Atlantic.

For parking information see www.rice.edu/maps to locate Founders Court/Visitors Parking across from Sewall Hall.

Reminder: a credit or debit card is required to access the lot and costs \$3.50/hour.

- Dr. Gus Costa, HAS Lab Director

So, you thought there was nothing left from the Battle of San Jacinto?

Wrong!

Below, our own camera recently caught Gregg Dimmick in the act of unearthing an artifact!



Come and hear archaeologists Roger G. Moore, PhD, and Douglas Mangum, MA discuss their recent findings from the battle - work they've done with a ton of support by Houston Archaeological Society volunteers.

Learn about discoveries from inside and outside park boundaries.

Get your copy of *Archaeology of Engagement: Conflict and Revolution in the United States*, a new book just released by Texas A&M University Press.
(Moore's & Mangum's case studies about their work at San Jacinto make up virtually half the book!)

See artifacts from the San Jacinto Townsite, courtesy of the Larry Golden family and the Houston Archaeological Society.

Enjoy an evening of cheer and conversation with your San Jacinto friends.

6:30p.m. to 9:30p.m., Tuesday, November 10

Pioneer Memorial Log House, 1510 Cambridge, Houston, TX 77030

\$75 buys a book, drinks & nibbles, an interesting presentation and a \$25 tax deductible contribution to the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy.

If you already own the book and would like to attend, Please pay the \$25 entry fee.
Extra books will be available for \$50 and you can have it autographed!

RSVP/remit to: Barbara Eaves, 1652 Vassar, Houston, TX 77006

Questions: 713-521-0768, barbara.eaves@att.net

San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy



The San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy is a Section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve, reclaim, and restore the San Jacinto Battleground and build greater public awareness of the battle of San Jacinto, the culminating military event of the Texas Revolution. No other nonprofit organization is devoted entirely to these goals. In 2010, the San Jacinto Battleground was included on Preservation Texas' Most Endangered Places list. Preservation Texas is the statewide partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. To find out what you can do to help, visit www.sanjacintobattleground.org

San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy
sjbc-texas@usa.net
808 Travis, Suite 1429
P. O. Box 940536
Houston, TX 77094-7536

Houston Archeological Society
Monthly Meeting Programs for 2015/2016
7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)
M. D. Anderson Hall, St. Thomas University

December 17 – HAS vice president Louis Aulbach will present an overview of HAS activities in 2015 with a focus on the enormously successful emergency salvage archeology project at the Kellum Noble House as well as ongoing work at San Jacinto, San Felipe de Austin and other sites in southeast Texas.

January 21, 2016 – Wilson W. “Dub” Crook - Kingwood’s First Inhabitants: The Timber Fawn Clovis Site (41HR1165). In November, 2014, HAS member Lenore Psencik was walking through new house construction in the Rivergrove sub-division of Kingwood when she noticed a complete Clovis blade sticking out of a fresh spoil dump. Her discovery led to a salvage archeological effort by HAS members which ultimately recovered a total of 24 diagnostic Clovis artifacts, including the bases of two Clovis points and parts of eight blades. The discovery marks the first Clovis occupation in Harris County (other than isolated finds of points). XRF analysis shows that many of the chert artifacts originated in the Edwards Plateau region near the famous Gault site, thus showing the possibility that Timber Fawn and Gault are related.

February 18, 2016 - Brad Jones – “Gifts for the Indians: French and Spanish Trade Goods on the Texas Coast in the 1680s”. Brad Jones, archeologist with the Texas Historical Commissions Archeology Division will present a program highlighting La Salle’s 1684 expedition to establish a French settlement on the Mississippi River which unexpectedly resulted in one of the first prolonged engagements between Native American and European peoples in the Texas Gulf region.

All **Houston Archeological Society** meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS visit our website at www.txhas.org or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/>

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Note: Please submit articles for publication to *The Profile* Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than November 25th for the December 2015 issue.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ARCHEOLOGY IN THIS AREA, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

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Larry Golden, Director-at-Large, dal_c@txhas.org

Mike Woods Director-at-Large, dal_a@txhas.org

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